



Helpful Legal Information for Family Law

Your Legal Rights, a project of CLEO, is a website for the Ontario public that brings together legal information on dozens of topics from hundreds of reliable sources across the province.

Go to www.yourlegalrights.on.ca and look under **Family Law > All resources on this topic**.

There you will see many resources relating to Family Law, including:

Title	CLEO's Family Law Series
Source	Community Legal Education Ontario (CLEO)
Content	<p>This series of booklets covers the major issues that arise in a family law case, including spousal support, child support, child custody and access, and property division. Available in print and online, in English and French. Available online in Chinese, and Introduction to Family Law online in Urdu and Farsi.</p> <p>Titles include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An Introduction to Family Law in Ontario• Separation and Divorce: Child Custody, Access, and Parenting Plans• Separation and Divorce: Child Support• Separation and Divorce: Spousal Support• Separation and Divorce or Death of a Spouse: Property Division

Title	Fact Sheet: Common Law Relationships
Source	Springtide Resources
Content	<p>This fact sheet has information on common-law relationships, including how long people have to live together to be "common law," legitimacy of children, property rights, exclusive possession of the home, spousal support, and cohabitation agreements.</p>

Title	A Women's Guide to Money, Relationships and the Law in Ontario
Source	National Association of Women and the Law
Content	This online tool was created to help women learn about their economic rights when entering and leaving common law relationships or marriages. It includes information about different legal definitions of spouse in Ontario, spousal and child support, economic abuse, the division of property, and has tools to help women write their own cohabitation or separation agreements. Also available as a PDF and as a podcast.

Title	Alternative Dispute Resolution and Family Law
Source	FLEW/FODF
Content	<p>This booklet is one of a series of booklets on women's rights under Ontario family law, which are available in 12 languages. Other titles include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Protection and Family Law • Child Support • Criminal and Family Law • Child Custody and Access • Domestic Contracts • Family Law Arbitration • Family Law Issues for Immigrant, Refugee and Non-Status Women • Finding Help with your Family Law Problem • How Property is Divided in Family Law • Marriage and Divorce • Spousal Support

Title	Your Law: Family Law in Ontario
Source	Law Society of Upper Canada
Content	This website offers information and access to resources on the legal, financial, emotional, and social considerations relating to child custody, access, and child support. It has separate sections for parents, for children, and about going to court. There are also links to videos, tools for finding a lawyer and a courthouse, the Family Law Information Program, and resources on violence at home.

Related Common Questions

Go to www.yourlegalrights.on.ca/common-questions-browse and look under the topic **Family Law** to find answers to questions like this:

My kids live with my ex but our separation agreement says I can visit with them for at least one afternoon or evening a week, which I usually do. I am behind on my child support payments and now my ex says I can't see the kids until I'm all paid up. Can my ex do that?

What is a "pre-nuptial agreement" or "marriage contract" and what do they really mean?

Where to get legal help

Go to www.yourlegalrights.on.ca/find-services and look under **Services by Legal Topic > Family Law**

There are **Family Law Information Centres (FLIC)** at courthouses that deal with family law. Many of the centres have staff who can give information and make referrals to community agencies and legal services. During specific hours, some of the centres have lawyers from Legal Aid Ontario who can meet with you. For more information, contact your local courthouse or visit the section about Family Law Information Centres on the Ministry of the Attorney General website at www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/.

Family Law Service Centres (FLSCs) offer eligible clients a range of legal resources and support for family matters. The centres are staffed by a lawyer manager, staff lawyers, and legal workers who are supervised by lawyers. Each of the FLSCs serve clients going to the family courts located in their area, so it is important that you contact the FLSC in the region where your court case is located. **Find the FLSC near you** on the Legal Aid website at www.legalaid.on.ca or call the numbers listed below.

Legal Aid Ontario (LAO) helps low-income individuals and disadvantaged communities get legal assistance through a broad range of services, including legal help for low-income people who appear in court without a lawyer, telephone and online assistance, resources, referrals, and assistance in retaining a lawyer if applicants meet eligibility requirements. LAO provides help in certain areas of law, such as criminal, family, and immigration and refugee. For more information visit www.legalaid.on.ca or call:

Toll-free: 1-800-668-8258

Toronto area: 416-979-1446

Toll-free TTY: 1-866-641-8867

Toronto area TTY: 416-598-8867

The Law Society of Upper Canada has information to help you find legal assistance. Visit the Law Society's online **Lawyer and Paralegal Directory** or call the **Law Society Referral Service** at 416-947-3330 or 1-800-268-8326.

JusticeNet is a not-for-profit service helping people in need of legal expertise, whose income is too high to access legal aid and too low to afford standard legal fees. JusticeNet is currently available to anyone living in Ontario. Visit their website at www.justicenet.org or call 416-479-0552 or 1-866-919-3219.

You can use this space to jot down questions you would like to ask or notes you want to make about the presentation.

Remember that the presenter cannot give you legal advice about your particular issue – they can give you general legal information.

Question 1:

Question 2:

Notes: